

REMARKS

Claims 1-77 are pending.

Claims 1-77 are rejected.

The office action dated Oct. 20, 2009 indicates that claims 4, 23, 39 and 62 are rejected under 35 USC §112 second paragraph as being indefinite, and that claims 1-77 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Borland U.S. Patent No. 6,343,217 in view of others.

These rejections have been rendered moot by the amendments above. Claims 1-77 have been cancelled and replaced with new claims 78-92.

New claim 78 recites a Fibre Channel interface unit for interfacing an output device with a plurality of nodes in a Fibre Channel network. The interface unit comprises:

- a plurality of input interfaces coupled to the nodes to passively listen for frames communicated between the nodes, the frames formatted in accordance with a Fibre Channel protocol, the input interfaces further configured to examine source and destination addresses of the frames in order to extract data wanted by the output device and eliminate data not wanted by the output device, each interface providing filtered data that is wanted by the output device; and

- an output interface configured to place the filtered data from the input interfaces into a single, lower speed output stream that is formatted for the output device in accordance with a protocol other than Fiber Channel.

For an output device such as a recorder, the input interfaces can significantly reduce output recording bandwidth requirements. Support for the input interfaces is provided at portions including col. 3, lines 18+, page 5, lines 11+, page 7, lines 3+, and page 9, lines 11+ of the specification.

The interface unit of new claim 78 is not taught or suggested by Borland or any of the secondary documents cited in the office action. Borland discloses PCM techniques for coding an audio signal for a cordless telephone (col. 1, lines 61+). A

cordless telephone includes a base unit and a handset, which communicate through a wireless PCM link (col. 4, lines 58+). The base unit takes an incoming analog audio signal (col. 3, lines 39-40), digitizes it (col. 3, line 41), and modulates the digitized signal according to PCM in order to faithfully convey a high quality audio signal (col. 3, lines 52+). (See also col. 2, lines 14+.) The PCM signal is transmitted to the handset, and the handset converts the PCM signal to an audio signal that may be heard by a user.

The base unit may communicate with a telephone network via fiber optic links (col. 2, lines 24+) or an Ethernet line (col. 7, line 57), etc. The incoming audio signal can be a digital signal. If the incoming digital signal is a DSL or T1 signal, it is converted to a PCM format (col. 7, lines 42-45). If the incoming digital signal is an ISDN signal, it is already in a PCM format, whereby a PCM encoder can be bypassed (col. 7, lines 46-50).

Borland doesn't teach or suggest a base unit that passively listens to communications between multiple nodes on a network. Borland's cordless telephone contributes to traffic over the telephone network.

Borland does not teach or suggest a base unit that examines source and destination addresses of network frames in order to extract data desired for a handset. Borland does not teach or suggest a base unit that eliminates data not wanted by the handset.

Borland does not teach or suggest a base unit that places the filtered data from multiple input interfaces (and, therefore, multiple nodes) into a single, lower speed output stream.

The office action cites several secondary documents: Lockridge U.S. Publication No. 2004/0010729; Watkins U.S. Patent No. 6,507,672; Tedensig U.S. Patent No. 6,307,859; and White U.S. Patent No. 6,561,454. However, these secondary

documents do not teach or suggest modifying Borland's cordless telephone to produce the Fibre Channel interface unit of claim 78. That is, these secondary documents do not establish a logical jump from Borland's system to the Fiber Channel interface unit of claim 78.

Moreover, none of the secondary documents teach or suggest replacing Borland's handset with the types of output devices recited in claims 80-83.

Therefore, new base claim 78 and its dependent claims 79-87 should be allowed over the documents cited in the office action.

New base claim 88 recites a method for collecting avionics data for an aircraft output device. The method includes:

- passively listening for frames communicated between a plurality of nodes in a Fibre Channel local area network, the frames formatted in accordance with a Fibre Channel protocol;

- selecting avionics data wanted by the output device, including examining source and destination addresses of the frames in order to extract avionics data specific to the output device and eliminate data not wanted by the output device; and

- placing the filtered data into a single, lower speed output stream that is formatted for the output device in accordance with a protocol other than Fibre Channel.

The secondary documents do not teach or suggest using Borland's wireless telephone to collect avionics data, or using Borland's wireless telephone to passively listen for frames communicated between a plurality of nodes in a Fibre Channel local area network. The secondary documents do not teach or suggest using Borland's base unit to examine source and destination addresses of the frames in order to extract avionics data specific to an aircraft output device and eliminate data not wanted by the output device. The secondary documents do not suggest modifying Borland's base unit to place filtered data into

an output stream that is formatted for the output device. Therefore, new claim 88 and its dependent claims 89-92 should be allowed over the documents cited in the office action.

The Examiner is strongly encouraged to contact the undersigned to discuss any remaining issues prior to mailing another office action.

Respectfully submitted,

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